

ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for determining and adjusting binder  
laylength during the process of manufacturing a selected fiber optic cable  
design. Specifically, a binder, having a distinguishing and physically  
detectable feature, is wrapped around fiber optic bundles or a buffer tube. A  
5 detection system detects the unique feature associated with the binder and thus  
creates a calculates a representative distance value. The distance value is  
calculated in relation the periodic spacing between two detected points on the  
physically detectable binder and is continuously monitored by a closed  
10 feedback loop. A computer receives status data from the closed feedback loop  
and compares the received data to a stored laylength parameter. In light of the  
comparison, an algorithm adjusts the binder head speed accordingly. This  
process repeats until the desired stored laylength is detected by the detection  
system.

15